

1805.



1905.

BOROUGH OF STOKE-UPON-TRENT.

Stoke-upon-Trent

Urban Sanitary Authority.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STOKE-ON-TRENT :

HILL & AINSWORTH, PRINTERS, GLEBE STREET.

1906.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT,

FEBRUARY, 1906.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Borough
of Stoke-upon-Trent.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Sixth
Annual Report.

I have had to omit certain Tables and other interesting
though non-essential information in order that the printing of
the Report might not exceed Ten Pounds.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obedient Servant,

G. PETGRAVE JOHNSON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

Population.

The estimated population of the Borough at the middle of 1905 was 33,688, and the statistics and this report are based upon that estimate.

Births.

The total number of Births registered in the Borough in 1905 was 1014—532 males and 482 females, equal an to annual birth-rate per 1,000 of the population of 30·9.

The number of children born in the Workhouse, and included in the above was :—

Belonging to Hanley	..	21—viz. 13 males, 8 females
" Longton	...	9 " 3 " 6 "
" Fenton	...	8 " 4 " 4 "
" Stoke	...	7 " 4 " 3 "
" Stoke Rural...	0	" 0 " 0 "

TOTAL ... 45, of which 38 did not belong to Stoke.

Six births—4 boys and 2 girls—occurred in the Borough not belonging thereto.

The corrected number of births was therefore 970—508 males and 462 females, and the corrected Birth Rate 28·8.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1905 was 27·2.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH		DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF RESIDENTS WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT,							DEATHS AT ALL AGES, SHOWING WHERE DEATHS OCCURRED, WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT
		All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up- wards	Stoke exclud'g Instit'ns	W. H. N. S. I.	Buck- nall		
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Measles ...	...	23	7	16	...	...	...	...	22	1	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever ...	...	3	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	2	1
Whooping Cough ...	...	21	10	11	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	...	16	1	9	5	1	...	...	9	...	...	7	1
Enteric Fever ...	...	4	...	...	1	...	3	...	3	...	1	...	6
Epidemic Influenza ...	...	8	...	...	...	1	6	1	7	...	...	...	3
Diarrhoea ...	...	12	9	3	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	1
Enteritis ...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	3
Other Septic Diseases ...	...	4	...	...	2	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	20
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	...	31	...	2	...	3	25	1	26	4	1	...	38
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	...	14	4	4	2	...	3	1	12	1	1	...	14
Cancer, malignant disease ...	...	16	...	...	...	...	11	5	13	...	3	...	21
Bronchitis ...	...	46	15	1	...	...	22	8	39	6	1	...	43
Pneumonia ...	...	42	12	13	1	2	9	5	36	3	3	...	16
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of Liver) ...	...	10	...	...	...	...	7	3	8	1	1	...	8
Venereal Diseases ...	...	3	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	3	...	...	10
Premature Birth ...	...	16	16	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	3
Diseases and Accidents of parturition ...	...	5	...	...	...	...	4	...	5	...	...	...	1
Heart Diseases...	...	44	1	...	1	2	22	18	33	10	1	...	54
Accidents ...	...	15	3	3	3	...	4	2	7	1	7	...	35
Suicides ...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...
All other causes ...	...	161	66	8	2	6	30	49	139	13	9	...	144
All causes ...		502	150	70	19	16	153	94	420	45	28	9	425

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.					TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Number	Rate	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.						Number	Rate
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number	Rate						
								5						6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1895	26221	835	31·5	150	192	725	27·4	—	274	2	453	17·2	
1896	26960	774	28·7	131	163	652	24·1	280	227	2	427	15·8	
1897	27561	808	29·3	155	191	660	23·9	266	222	1	435	15·9	
1898	28176	892	30·5	148	166	759	26·9	291	241	7	525	18·6	
1899	28546	872	30·7	196	224	809	28·3	318	260	5	554	19·2	
1900	29439	977	33·1	161	164	793	26·9	314	264	15	544	18·5	
1901	30639	970	31·6	181	186	750	24·4	309	260	13	503	16·3	
1902	31374	1030	32·8	166	162	787	25·8	374	310	7	484	15·4	
1903	32127	994	30·9	136	137	749	23·0	362	304	5	450	14·0	
1904	32898	1080	32·8	160	148	836	25·3	383	328	16	524	15·9	
Averages for years 1895-1904	28994	926	31·2	158	174	752	25·6	321	269	7	490	16·6	
1905	33688	970	28·8	150	155	845	25·08	425	352	9	502	14·8	

Total population at all ages, 30,458
 Number of inhabited houses 6012
 Average number of persons per house, 5·06

Arear of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1832.

At Census of 1901

I.—Institutions within the District receiving Sick and Infirm persons from outside the District :—

North Staffordshire Infirmary, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent,
250 beds.

Stoke-on-Trent Union Workhouse (serving the County Borough of Hanley, the Borough of Longton, and Stoke-upon-Trent, the Urban District of Fenton, and the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent).

The Convent Home for Incurables.

II.—Institutions outside the District receiving Sick and Infirm persons from the District :—

Bucknall Isolation Hospital, 166 beds.

The Bagnall Small-pox Hospital.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? Yes.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in the Borough in 1905 was 845—474 males and 371 females; this gave a Death Rate of 25·08 per 1,000 of the population at the middle of the year.

Of the total deaths, 352 (212 males and 140 females) were deaths of non-residents dying in the district, and having the deaths registered here. Of the foreign deaths, 154 occurred at the North Stafford Infirmary, 198 at the Workhouse. The Workhouse serves the districts of Longton, Fenton, Hanley, and Stoke Rural, as well as Stoke Urban.

Particulars of the 352 deaths of non-residents were sent monthly to the Medical Officers of Health of the districts to which they belonged.

Nine deaths of residents were registered beyond the district, they occurred at the Bucknall Isolation Hospital, which is in the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent.

The corrected number of deaths in the Borough was therefore 502 (males 266, females 236, and the corrected Death Rate 14·8 per 1,000 of the population.

Corrected number of deaths ..	...	...	502
Death Rate of the Borough for 1905 ...	...	...	14·8
Death Rate of the Borough for 1904 ..	...	...	15·9
Average Death Rate for 10 years, 1892-1901 ...	...	...	17·2
Death Rate for England and Wales in 1905 ...	...	...	15·2
Death Rate for 76 large towns of England and Wales in 1905 ...	...	...	15·7
Death Rate of 141 smaller towns in England and Wales in 1905 ...	...	...	14·4
Death Rate for England and Wales less the 217 towns in 1905 ...	...	...	14·9

Infantile Mortality.

The deaths under one year in 1905 numbered 150.

Number of deaths under one year ...	...	...	150
" per 1,000 Births in 1905 ...	...	...	155
" under 1 year per 1,000 births in 76 larger towns in 1905 ...	...	...	140
" under one year per 1,000 births in 141 smaller town in 1905 ...	...	...	132

The infantile death-rate is somewhat higher than for the previous two years, but is well below the average rate for the Borough. The Rate for England and Wales is lower than it has been for many years, and the Rate for the Borough compares very unfavourably with it and with that for the 76 large towns.

The distribution of leaflets on infant feeding which was introduced four years ago has been regularly carried out by the Registrar of Births and Deaths.

It is now possible for the Sanitary Authority to obtain the addresses of all births in the Borough from week to week.

Seven Principal Epidemic Diseases.

Number of Deaths in 1905	...	...	...	...	79
Zymotic Death Rate in 1905	...	...	...	...	2·34
"	"	1904	...	...	2·401
"	"	for England and Wales 1905	...	...	1·52

The Zymotic Death Rate in the 76 large towns of England and Wales in 1905 was 2·49.

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

					Number of Deaths 1905	Rates per 1000 living 1905
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	12	0·35
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	21	0·62
Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup					16	0·48
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	3	0·09
Enteric Fever...	...	...	...	...	4	0·12
Measles	...	...	...	...	23	0·68
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	0	0·00
					—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	79	2·34

More than half the deaths were due to Whooping Cough and Measles and occurred in children under five years of age.

No less than 66 out of the 79 deaths occurred in children under 5 years of age. In response to a request from the Education Committee of the Stoke-upon-Trent Corporation, I drew up and presented a report dealing with the question of the attendance at school of children under 5 years of age. In that report I advised that such children should not be allowed to attend school.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1905.

DEATHS FROM STATED CASES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH																	Total Deaths under One Year
	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	3	7
Diphtheria : Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	2	5	10
Diarrhoea, all forms ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	9
Enteritis (not Tuberculos)	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Premature Birth	16	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Congenital Defects	3	...	1	2	4	2	5	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	16	3	1	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	3
Convulsions	2	1	...	1	4	...	1	1	...	1	2	2	2	...	1	1	15
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	3	1	1	...	1	...	1	2	1	15
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	12
Suffocation, overlaying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3
Other Causes ...	1	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	...	3	2	...	2	...	1	13
	38	4	2	4	48	12	11	11	9	4	9	10	8	6	10	12	150

Births in the Year } legitimate, 930.
 } illegitimate, 40.

Population, estimated to middle of 1905, 33688.
 Deaths from all Causes at all Ages. 502.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Notifiable Disease	Cases Notified in Whole District						Total Cases Notified in each locality			No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each locality		
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years					1	2	3	1	2	3
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65						
Diphtheria ...	89	2	26	37	13	11	24	29	36*	20	15	12
Membranous Croup ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	34	2	1	3	4	17	8	20	6†	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever...	108	2	30	55	13	8	30	53	25‡	20	24	11
Enteric Fever...	34	...	2	9	7	16	4	19	11§	N.S.I. 1 W.H. 1	N.S.I. 3 W.H. 5	N.S.I. 5 W.H. 2
Puerperal Fever	5	...	...	...	...	5	2	1	2	...	...	...
Totals ...	271	6	60	104	37	57	68	123	80	41	47	30

* { 1 Case at North Staffordshire Infirmary included.
1 Case at the Blind and Deaf Institution included.

‡ { 6 Cases of Scarlet Fever at North Staffordshire Infirmary included. § { 5 Cases occurred at North Staffs. Infirmary.
1 Case of Scarlet Fever at Cottage Hospital included. { 1 Case occurred at the Workhouse.

Isolation Hospital—Bucknall, in the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent.
N.S.I.—North Staffordshire Infirmary. W.H.—Workhouse Hospital.

Notification of Infectious Diseases.

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, has been in force in the Borough since February 1st, 1890.

The diseases which are notified in the Borough are those scheduled in the Act, together with Bubonic Plague, added by order of the Local Government Board at the end of 1900. Measles is not included in the diseases notified.

The following notifications of cases were received during the year :—

		North Stafford Infirmary	The Work- house	Bl'nd and Deaf School	The Borough (excluding Institutions)	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	6	1 C.H.	...	101	108
Diphtheria	...	2	...	1	87	90
Membraneous Croup	...	...	...	...	1	1
Enteric Fever	...	46	3	...	28	77
Puerperal Fever	...	..	...	...	5	5
Erysipelas	...	3	21	1	21	46
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...
						<hr/> 327

Included in the above are 56 foreign cases, so that the total number belonging to the Borough was 271.

In 1904 the number of cases notified belonging to the Borough was 447, so that there were 176 cases less in 1905.

The foreign cases occurred as follows :—

41 cases of Enteric Fever at the North Stafford Infirmary.

2 " " " Workhouse.

9 cases of Erysipelas at the Workhouse.

3 " " " North Stafford Infirmary.

1 case of Diphtheria " " " "

Sixteen cases were notified a second time—viz., 3 cases of Diphtheria, 0 of Scarlet Fever, and 13 of Enteric Fever.

So that the actual number of notification certificates received was 343, or 144 less than the previous year.

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act entailed a charge of £35 17s. 6d.

Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup.

Number of cases belonging to the Borough	...	...	90
Number of houses infected	...	...	85
Death Rate per 1000 of the population	...	...	0·48
Case Mortality (deaths per 100 cases)	...	...	17·7
Removed to the Isolation Hospital	...	...	47 = 52·2
Cases of Diphtheria at the Cottage Homes	...	...	0
" " North Stafford Infirmary	...	...	1
" " Institution for the Blind and			
Deaf Children	...	...	1
" " Borough, excluding Institutions			87
" " Workhouse	...	...	0
Total			89
Cases of Membraneous Croup in the Borough	...	...	1
Total			90

The following is an outline of what was done during the year to combat the disease:—

In addition to Notification by Medical men, post cards, ready printed, were supplied to all Schools and Attendance Officers for the immediate notification of any cases of suspicious illness, such as sore throat, that might come to their knowledge, and where no medical man was in attendance.

The County Council has continued the arrangements with the Birmingham University, for Bacteriological Examination, free of charge, of swabs from the throats of suspicious cases. About 17 swabs were sent for examination during the year, and positive results obtained in 5. In the previous two years positive results were obtained in one-third of the cases, out of 42 and 21 swabs sent.

As in previous years, all cases were visited within a few hours of receipt of notification by the Sanitary Inspector, and enquiries made and noted on printed forms, and steps taken to secure isolation. Printed sheets with directions as to precautions to be taken, and also extracts from the Public Health Acts, were left at each house.

Post cards were regularly sent to Schools notifying the presence of the disease in houses, and requesting the exclusion of all children from such houses till further notice. In such cases the children have been excluded from School until a fortnight after disinfection of the house. Post Cards are now being sent to the Schools stating when the children might be admitted.

Post Cards are sent each week to every medical man in the Borough, notifying the presence of the disease in the different streets where it has occurred during the week. This is done in the case of all the notified diseases.

The Health Committee have supplied antitoxin, free of charge, for prophylactic use in the Borough, and pay a fee for its use. It has been made use of to a greater extent during the year than previously.

From January 1st to December 31st, 62 persons were injected for propylactic purposes. They had come into contact with 21 cases. None of these injected developed the disease subsequently. The cost to the Borough was £4 13s. 6d.

On removal of a case to the Hospital, the walls, ceilings, &c., of the room have been sprayed with Izol solution.

All bedding and clothing have been regularly disinfected in the Borough Disinfector.

Attention was always given to the Sanitary condition of the premises where cases occurred, and any defects found, dealt with, special examinations being made when necessary.

It was not found necessary to close any Schools on account of the prevalence of this disease.

As in previous years, the disease seemed to be spread chiefly by personal contact, or to be conveyed by clothing or bedding.

Measles.

Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Death Rate per 1,000 living	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·68
Death Rate in 1905 from Measles in 76 large towns in England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·38

Number of Deaths from Measles in the Borough
at different ages :—

Year		Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 and upwards
1896	...	10	29	...	...
1897	...	...	1	...	...
1898	...	5	30	...	...
1899	...	...	...	...	...
1900	...	3	9	1	...
1901	...	2	...	...	...
1902	...	1	4	...	...
1903	...	...	3	...	...
1904	...	...	...	...	...
1905	...	7	16	...	...

Measles is not a disease which is notified in the Borough.

Our chief sources of information are the School Attendance Officers and Teachers.

I have not advised that the disease should be made notifiable.

Leaflets giving hints on the treatment and precautions to be taken were freely distributed by the Attendance Officers and School Teachers.

The Borough suffered from an epidemic of Measles during the early part of the year. The epidemic made its appearance in December, 1904, and continued till June, 1905. All the Infants' Schools were affected in turns and had to be closed at different times.

Scarlet Fever.

Number of Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Death Rate per 1,000 living	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·09
Case Mortality per 100 Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2·7
Number of Cases removed to the Isolation Hospital, 55 = 51 $\frac{2}{3}$ cent							
Death Rate for 76 large towns in England and Wales in							
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·13

Two deaths occurred amongst the cases removed to the Isolation Hospital, while One occurred amongst those which remained at home.

NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED IN 1905 :—

From the North Stafford Infirmary	..	...	...	..	6
" Cottage Homes	...	...	...	...	1
" Borough, excluding Institutions	...	...	...	...	101
Total					108

Eighty Houses were infected with Scarlet Fever excluding Institutions, so that there were 21 secondary cases.

Whooping Cough.

Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·62
Death Rate in 76 large towns of England and Wales...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·29

The disease was very prevalent in the Borough during the first half of the year. Ten of the deaths occurred in the month of May.

All children suffering from the disease are excluded from school, also the younger children in the households.

Leaflets dealing with the disease have been freely distributed.

Enteric Fever.

Number of Cases in the Borough in 1905	...	...	...	...	34
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	4
Death Rate per 1000 of the Population	...	...	...	...	0·12
Case Mortality per 100 Cases	...	...	...	...	11·7
Death Rate of 76 large towns of England and Wales	...	...	...	...	0·08

A localised outburst of Enteric Fever occurred in five cottages known as Church Row, Trent Vale. The outbreak occurred in the months of September, October, and November. Eight cases occurred in all. The only water supply of the cottages was one well. The water of this was bacteriologically examined as soon as the first case was notified, it was found to be contaminated by sewage. There were also serious defects with the drainage of the cottages. The well was closed by order of the Court and the public water supply laid on, the other defects are also being remedied.

Special pails were supplied to all infected houses, with disinfectants to receive the excreta. These pails were removed twice weekly, and the contents buried. In all cases careful examination was made of the premises, and disinfection carried out at the termination of each case.

Arrangements exist with the University of Birmingham, through the County Council, for Bacteriological diagnosis of Enteric Fever cases: it was made use of in five cases, with negative results.

The only hospital accommodation for Typhoid Fever is at the North Stafford Infirmary and the Workhouse Hospital.

Sixteen cases were removed to Hospital.

It has recently been decided that after April 1906 a ward at the Bucknall Isolation Hospital shall be reserved for cases of Typhoid fever.

Phthisis and other Forms of Tuberculosis.

Number of Deaths from Phthisis ...	...	...	...	31
Death Rate ...	...	...	...	·81
Number of Deaths from other forms of				
Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	14
Death Rate (per 1000 living) from other forms				
of Tuberculosis...	...	...	...	·41

OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

In 1905 there were 14 deaths due to forms of Tuberculosis other than Phthisis ; in 1904 there were 12 ; in 1903 there were 16 ; in 1902 there were 16 ; in 1901 there were 10 ; in 1900, 15 ; in 1899, 17 ; in 1898, 24 ; in 1897, 13 ; in 1896, 16.

Through the arrangements made by the County Council with the University of Birmingham, medical men in the Borough have facilities for bacteriological diagnosis in doubtful cases ; they have been taken advantage of on 5 occasions, with 2 positive and 3 negative results.

No special measures have been adopted by the Council to combat this disease.

The County Council has postponed the consideration of the question of the erecting of a Sanatorium in Staffordshire.

Diseases of the Respiratory Organs.

				Number of Deaths
Bronchitis	...	...	...	46
Pneumonia	...	...	...	42
Pleurisy	...	...	...	0
Other Diseases		...	...	1
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	89
				<hr/>
Death Rate per 1,000 living				2·64

Of the total deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia no less than 41 or nearly half occurred in children under five years of age. The importance of protecting children of these ages from the effect of cold and damp and changes in the temprature should be realised and the prompt treatment of Catarrhs and Colds insisted upon.

Vaccinations.

	1904	Half year ending June 1905.
Births Registered	1145	506
Successfully Vaccinated	840	392
Insusceptible	1	1
Had Small-pox	0	0
Died	155	55
Postponed	43	24
Removals Certified	24	4
Removals Unvaccinated	70	21
Unvaccinated	8	8
Conscientious Objections	4	1
Number of Vaccinations to 100 Births ...	73	...

Small-pox.

The Borough has remained free from the disease.

Small-pox Hospital Accommodation.

The Joint Small-pox Hospital Board has now made provision for the isolation of Small-pox cases. This has cost the Borough £87 12s. 2d. during the year.

Isolation Hospital.

The Contagious Diseases Hospital at Bucknall, in the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent, serves the Urban Districts of Hanley, Fenton, Stoke-upon-Trent and Longton, and the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent, it is under the management of a Joint Hospital Board. There are in the Hospital about 166 beds and cots. It has recently been decided that a certain number of beds shall be set apart for cases of Enteric Fever. The buildings are permanent ones, pavilions connected by covered ways.

The Staff of the Hospital consists of ;—

A Visiting Medical Officer

A Female Resident Medical Officer

A Master and Matron

Nurses and Probationers to the required number.

The population of the Joint District now exceeds 165,000.

SCALE OF CHARGES.

Adopted by the Board on the 10th day of June, 1892, and 3rd day of June, 1898, for maintenance and care, &c., of patients admitted by order of a Medical Officer of Health within the District of the Board :—

Patients under 14 years of age	1/4 per day
Patients 14 years of age and upwards ...	1/9 per day
Medical Attendance, in each case attended by the Board's Medical Officer ...	£1 1s.
Contribution to Common Fund, per patient	£3 10s.

PRIVATE PATIENTS.

Patients treated in Private Wards ...	5/- per day
Medical Attendance, in each case attended by the Board's Medical Officer ...	£2 2s.
Contribution to Common Fund, per patient	£2 10s.

The cubic space allowed per patient at the Hospital is about 1,150 feet. I have in previous reports pointed out that the space allowed is less than is usually considered necessary.

During the year 102 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital from the Borough ; 50 were cases of Scarlet Fever, and 45 were cases of Diptheria.

Number of Patients remaining in the Hospital at the end of 1904	28
Number of Patients removed to the Hospital in 1905	102
Total	130
Number of Patients remaining in the Hospital at the end of 1905	10
Number of Patients Discharged or Died	120
Number of Patients Chargeable to other Authorities... ..	7
Number of Patients Chargeable to the Borough...	113

The Isolation of 113 Patients at the Hospital entailed an expenditure of £904 12s. 6d. One special precept of £115 19s. 6d. was levied. So that each patient cost on an average £9 0s. 7d.

Offensive Trades.

There are in the district 1 Fellmonger's establishment, 1 Tripe Boiling business, and a Rag and Bone Store. There are no Bye-laws with respect to Offensive Trades.

Regular inspections have been carried out, and no complaints have been received.

Calcining of Bones is carried on on two factories in the Borough. Considerable nuisance has at times been caused by one of these.

Slaughter Houses.

There are in the Borough 3 licensed Slaughter Houses and 6 registered ones.

There are Bye-laws for their regulation, they ought to be brought up-to-date.

Eighty-six inspections of these premises have been made during the year.

Some of the Slaughter Houses are used as Stables, horses being kept in the lairs.

The removal of Offal and Manure is not satisfactorily done.

Under present conditions it is impossible to efficiently inspect meat sold in the Borough.

There is no Public Slaughter House.

In one instance an animal in an obviously emaciated and diseased condition was found by the Inspector at one of the Slaughter Houses. When slaughtered it was ascertained to have been suffering from Tuberculosis. It was all seized and destroyed with the exception of portions of the hind quarters. The matter was reported to the Health Committee and the butcher was cautioned.

In another instance nearly the whole carcase of a cow was seized in the market, the butcher was prosecuted and sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

Under the present Bye-laws dogs may be kept in the Slaughter-houses also animals not intended for slaughter. The Slaughter-houses may be used as stables, and the boundaries of the Slaughter-houses need not be defined. These deficiencies require attention.

Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milk-shops.

There are in the Borough 12 Dairies and Cow-sheds, and 47 Milk-shops. During the year 163 inspections were made.

The Regulations of the Local Government Board came into force in the Borough in November, 1901.

Milk-shops are with one or two exceptions fairly well kept by the aid of an occasional verbal notice.

On request of the Committee a special inspection was made of the Cow-sheds in the Borough and a report made. Notices were served by the Town Clerk on the instruction of the Council on all those occupiers found to be not complying with the bye-laws warning them that proceedings would be taken unless the defects were at once remedied.

Water Supply.

The Staffordshire Potteries Water Works Company supplies the Borough with water. The quality is good and the supply constant and adequate. The water supplied to Stoke-upon-Trent is derived from the deep wells in the Bunter Sandstone at Hatton. From these wells the water is pumped to a reservoir 775 feet above the sea level, and from thence the mains run through Trentham, Hanford, and Trent Vale to Penkhull, the highest point in the Borough (550 feet above the sea level), and from these it is distributed throughout the town. The pressure in the mains is very considerable.

There are still some instances in the Borough of very insufficient water supply.

A large number of Water Closets in the Borough are without Flushing Cisterns. In several instances the water supply to the houses is deficient, and this deficiency is much increased where there are Water Closets without Flushing Cisterns.

Practically all houses in the Borough are now supplied from the public water supply.

Smoke Nuisance.

Great nuisance still exists for excessive emission of smoke from Chimneys in the district. The Chimneys in connection with Steam Boilers are apparently the chief offenders at any rate in the day time. The nuisance from these could without any difficulty be very much lessened.

Canal Boats.

Stoke-upon-Trent is the Registration Authority for the whole of the surrounding district. There are over 500 boats on the Register.

In 1905, 310 inspections were made, and 42 infringements detected.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year. The custom is to serve a notice when infringements are detected.

Scarlet Fever occurred on two boats during the year. The patients were immediately removed and the boats disinfected without delay. The second outbreak occurred through contact with the first.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are 2 Common Lodging Houses in the Borough, and there are Bye-laws in force for their regulation. In one there are 25 beds in the house available for single lodgers, and 3 for married couples. This House is an old one ; it is as well kept as it can be.

It would be a distinct advance to have it replaced by a Municipal Model Lodging House.

The second one is also an old house, improved and re-arranged. It has been well kept.

Both the Houses have been regularly inspected.

Mortuary.

One of the compartments of the stables in the Corporation yard has been set aside as a place where bodies might be deposited while awaiting an inquest and burial. It can hardly be described as a Mortuary. The position is also unsuitable it being next to the men's mess-room.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTION MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

PREMISES.	NUMBER OF		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	9	6	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	43	7	0
Workplaces	0	0	0
Bakehouses	79	4	0
Homeworkers' Premises	0	0	0
Total	131	17	0

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS	NUMBER OF		DEFECTS Referred to H.M. Inspector	Number of Prose- cutions			
	Found	Remedied					
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :							
Want of Cleanliness	7	7	...	0	
Want of Ventilation	
Overcrowding	
Want of Drainage of Floors	
Other Nuisances	1	1	...	...
Sanitary Accommodation—							
Insufficient	2	1
Unsuitable
Not Separate for Sexes
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :							
Illegal Occupation of Underground							
Bakehouses
Breach of Special Sanitary Require- ments for Bakehouses							

Failure as Regard Lists of Out- workers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Giving out work to be done in premises which are—							
Unwholesome	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Allowing Wearing Apparel to be made in premises infected by Scarlet Fever or Small-Pox				...	...	...	...
Other Offences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	..			10	9	...	...

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :	NUMBER	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Work- shop Act	...	...
Notified by H.M. Inspector	...	2
Reports sent to H.M. Inspector	...	0
Occupation of Workshops notified by H.M. Inspector	...	9
Underground Bakehouses :		
In use during 1904	...	0
Certificates Granted—		
In 1903	...	0
In 1904	...	0
Homework :—	NUMBER OF Lists Out- workers	
Lists received	...	0
Addresses of Outworkers :—		
Forwarded to other Authorities	...	0
Received from other Authorities	...	0
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises	...	0
Cases of Infectious Disease notified in homeworkers' premises	...	0
Orders prohibiting homework to infected premises	...	0

WORKSHOPS ON THE REGISTER AT THE END OF 1905.

	NUMBER
Bakehouses	17
Dressmakers	41
Tailors	15
Boot-making and repairing	34
Building, Joinering, &c.	17
Others	40
<hr/>	
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	164

The Inspector has as far as is known completed the list of the Workshops in the Borough with a view to a more systematic inspection.

Housing of the Working Classes.

Twenty houses in Penkhull Square are being dealt with under Section 32 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.

Ten houses at Cliffe Bank Square, closed some years ago, have just been reopened by permission of the Court.

Removal of Nightsoil and Ashpit Refuse.

This work is done directly by the Council throughout the whole district.

Nightsoil is removed only between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5-30 a.m. A small quantity is disposed of directly to farmers in the district, but most of it is taken to the Sewage Farm, and there mixed with ashes, and sent away as manure by canal boat.

The Borough now possesses a Destructor ; and the Refuse is being burnt there. It is built in conjunction with the Electric Lighting Works.

The Cesspools and Ashpits are emptied on an average eight times a year.

It is satisfactory to note that all new houses are now supplied with Ashbins ; there are over 3,500 in the Borough. and these are emptied once weekly, and in some cases more frequently. There are also 300 shops in the main streets where there is a daily collection of Refuse.

There are in the district 1900 Cesspit Closets.

In 1905, 74 Cesspit Closets were converted into Water Closets.

This most important work of conversion is not progressing as quickly as it ought to. It would be worth while considering the question of spending a certain amount of money yearly in reducing the number of Cesspit Closets.

Drainage and Disposal of Sewage.

As a rule, in the larger houses, and where Water Closets are situated in the houses, the Drains are ventilated by a pipe continued upwards from the soil pipe, but only in houses specially re-drained within the last few years are the Drains disconnected by a trap and inspecting chamber from the Sewer. In smaller houses, with the Water Closets outside, there is no disconnection of Drains from Sewers, and in those that have the Drains ventilated, it is done by means of the rain-water fall pipes.

All houses, under the New Bye-laws, have the Drains disconnected and ventilated. The Sanitary Clauses of the New Bye-laws are being efficiently enforced.

A more systematic effort is being made, I am glad to note, to disconnect the rain-water fall pipes from the Drains and Sewers, and provide proper ventilation.

All Sewage of the Borough, except in the case of a few isolated houses, is dealt with at the Sewage Farm at Boothen. It is all pumped both day and night. The average amount of Sewage in 24 hours is over 1,000,000 gallons.

The Farm is 45 acres in area. The Sewage is treated by subsidence, and by land filtration and irrigation. The Effluents pass into the River Trent. The Sludge is dried by exposure in the open air, and spread on the land. Sewage from one of the mains can be used to irrigate the Boothen Farm, adjoining the Sewage Farm. The whole question of Sewage disposal in the Borough is being considered by the Council under the guidance of a special expert.

Bye-laws.

Bye-laws for the prevention of nuisances are needed, and especially those regulating the Storage and Removal of Manure, and the Keeping of Animals.

Staff.

During the past year the Council has appointed as Assistant Sanitary Inspector the Clerk in the Health Office, and another boy has been provided.

HEALTH OFFICE,

STOKE-UPON-TRENT,

JANUARY, 1906.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

DEAR SIR,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of work done in my Department during the past year.

Scavenging.

During the past year, I received complaints as follows :—

Ashpits, 121 ; Cesspools, 290 ; Total, 411.

as compared with

Ashpits, 71 ; Cesspools, 350 ; Total, 421.

for the year 1904.

The following is a Summary of work done for the Fifty-two weeks ending December, 1905 :—

Ashpits cleared	...	...	...	...	20,291
Dustbins cleared (weekly)	...	...	...	...	181,205
Loads removed	...	...	...	...	9,956
Cesspools cleared	...	...	...	...	14,859
Tubs removed (nightsoil)	...	...	..	...	4,287
Horses employed	...	...	...	...	10
*Wages paid	...	...	...	...	£1,324 12s. 6d.

* This amount includes what is paid for labour in Disinfecting.

The following are the figures for the year previous :—

Ashpits cleared	...	...	...	...	20,063
Dustbins cleared (weekly)	...	...	...	...	142,952
Loads removed	...	...	...	...	10,989
Cesspools cleared	..	...	...	...	13,821
Tubs removed	...	...	...	...	4,180
Horses employed	...	...	...	...	10
Wages paid	...	...	...	...	£1,554 13s. 5d.

Ashpits and Weekly Dustbins.

The number of Open Ashpits are steadily decreasing ; and the number of Dustbins collected weekly are now over 3,500, so that about half the houses in the Borough have now a weekly collection of refuse. The Ashpits are being emptied with more frequency, the whole district being covered in about seven weeks.

Cesspool Closets.

At the end of 1904, there were 1,989 Cesspool Closets in the Borough, 72 of these have been removed during the year, making the number, at the end of 1905, to be 1917.

These have been emptied over 8 times during the year. For want of tips, this work gets more difficult and costly, owing to the increased distance the refuse has to be carried.

I append Copy of Table showing Summary of Work done as required by the County Council. Besides the Work shown in this Table, a great deal has been done by personal arrangements with the owners and occupiers.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
T. STAKE, ASSO. ROYAL SAN. INST.

Summary of Sanitary Work.

		Inspections and Observations made		Formal Notices by Authority		Nuisances Abated after Notice	
Dwelling- houses and Schools	Foul Conditions ..	...	19	...	19	...	20
	Structural Defects ...	...	33	...	33	...	34
	Overcrowding ...	...	4	...	4	...	4
	Unfit for Habitation ...	...	20	...	20	...	—
	Lodging-houses ...	..	124	...	—	...	—
	Dairies and Milkshops	}	163	...	26	...	—
	Cowsheds ...						
	Bakehouses ...	...	79	...	4	...	4
	Slaughter-houses ...	...	86	...	—	...	—
	Canal Boats ...	...	310	...	42	...	41
House Drainage	Ashpits and Privies ...	...	168	...	163	...	139
	Deposits of Refuse & Manure		3	...	3	...	3
	Water Closets ...	...	28	...	28	...	21
	Defective Traps ...	...	15	...	15	...	14
	No Disconnection ...	...	17	...	17	...	10
	Other Faults ...	...	87	...	87	...	91
	Water Supply ...	...	5	...	5	...	5
	Pigsties ...	...	1	...	1	...	1
	Animials improperly kept ...	...	2	...	2	...	3
	Offensive Trades ...	...	38	...	—	...	—
	Smoke Nuisance ...	..	3	...	2	...	2
	Other Nuisances ...	...	—	...	—	...	1
	TOTALS ...		1205		471		393*

* These include notices in abeyance from last year.

Seizures of unwholesome Food	...	...	2
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	...	...	—
" " found Adultrated	...	...	—

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	226
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	214
Schools " " " "	...	...	3
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	...	...	—
Conviction for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	...	...	—
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things			1
Convictions " " " "			1

